

Minuteman

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Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.

September 2002

Protecting Dobbins ARB has become a team effort

By Senior Airman Reid Hanna
Public Affairs

His son just breathed his first breath. For the second time he witnessed the beginning of life. He was leaving them — his family — in just three days.

Phillip Andrew Jarisch was born the last week of March. One week later, his father, Tech. Sgt. Paul Jarisch, reported for duty to the 94th Security Forces Squadron at Dobbins ARB.

Jarisch and 12 other members of the 917th SFS from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., have been patrolling Dobbins ARB since then.

"It was hard to leave my family, particularly my newborn son," Jarisch said. "I constantly feel like I miss out on so many things that are firsts in his life. Those are moments I'll never be able to get back."

His constant communication with his wife, Connie, allows him to almost visualize his son's teething episodes as if he were there. He talks often with his wife and daughter, Erin. To make him feel even closer to home, they e-mail pictures back and forth.

Connie takes care of the house, the children and the bills — and it leaves him with a feeling of responsibility that weighs heavily on his mind.

"This was hard on my wife for the first few months," Jarisch said. "I'm so used to being there to share the household responsibilities."

His family life was not the only thing that his mobilization has affected. His civilian career was put on hold.

He was a lieutenant at the Pollock United States Federal Prison and was progressing in his career, until the events of Sept. 11.

Jarisch makes the time once a month to drive home and see his family in Pineville, La. Those weekends are something Jarisch impatiently waits for.

"The toughest part of the weekend is when it's time to come back," he said. "The most difficult thing for me is when my daughter comes to hug me and say goodbye."

"It really hurts to hear her say, 'Don't go daddy,'" he added.

A self-described gym rat — Bally's Gym has given Jarisch something to do to pass the time by offering him a temporary membership. He also has enjoyed the local movie theatres and their military discounts.

More than a few people who serve the armed forces live this same scenario as Jarisch, and the hardships have not deterred them. When duty called, airmen answered.

Last year at this time, Dobbins was swarming with military personnel. And airmen from bases like Lackland AFB, Texas, and Barksdale have augmented the units here for almost a year.

Jarisch said he hopes to return home to his family in October.

One of the positive outcomes of his mobilization awaits him when he gets back. In the weeks after his mobilization, he was offered a position as a Federal Air Marshall.

He'll be progressing in another career path. This time making our air travels safe.

Some reservists demobilized

By Tech. Sgt. Bob Purtiman
Public Affairs

Following the events of last Sept. 11, citizen airmen have provided a key role in the security of our nation and in the war on terror. To date, more than 35,000 Air Force reservists have been mobilized worldwide.

On the homefront at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, more than 200 people are currently mobilized.

"It's been a long, tough year for the men and women of the 94th Airlift Wing," said Brig. Gen. William Kane, 94th AW commander. "Once again, the wing's citizen airmen answered the call of our country and have done a tremendous job. If the country calls again, we'll answer."

Many of the reservists who answered the call were activated for a year-long stint on active duty. This month, many of those activated may be demobilized, while others will be extended.

According to Tech. Sgt. Becky Thompson, 94th Mission Support Squadron personnel readiness section, once the demobilization date has been established by Air Force Reserve Command, the individual has up to 30 days to outprocess.

The 30-day process includes applying for hardship to stay on active duty, medical evaluations, turn in of equipment and taking of leave.

Demobilization and the subsequent outprocessing requires a myriad of actions that include; pay, medical, career enhancement, family readiness and legal.

"People can request to be retained on active duty for those hardships caused by mobilization or early deactivation," Thompson said.

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Around the Wing



(U.S. Air Force Photo)

By Lt. Col. Evelyn Byars
94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, commander

A year ago, America suffered her worst attack since Pearl Harbor. The attack was unique unto itself because the attackers used our own technology against us. Though many lives were lost on that horrible Sept. 11, the unity we, the survivors, showed in the face of great adversity could never be taken from us.

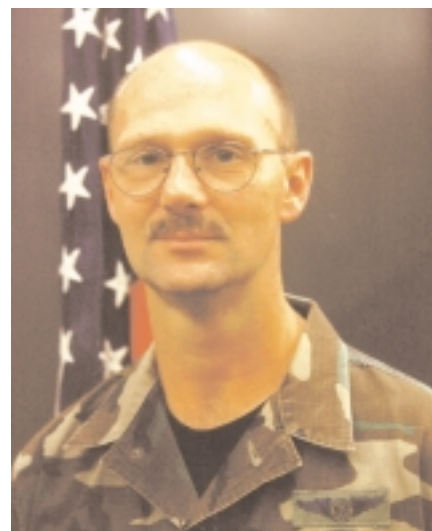
In that brief instant, reservists were required to make good on the oath taken during enlistment. On Sept. 11, defending the country became more than an abstract concept to us — it became a way of life. Lives changed that day, families had to be restructured and careers were put on hold. On that day, reservists became the champions of the American philosophy.

In the wake of those attacks, Dobbins Air Reserve Base also changed. Within mere hours of the attack, Dobbins was transformed into a veritable fortress. Barricades were placed throughout the base, building security was greatly increased and entering and exiting the base became a task in and of itself. With all the changes happening around them, Dobbins' reservists didn't complain. They knew the reasons behind the changes and they adapted to their new, more proactive status.

The overall feel of the base changed. The normal, upbeat tone was replaced with a more retrospective and focused atmosphere. Our reservists were concentrating on the tasks before them; they realized what had to be done and they were steadfast in doing their part to support Operation Noble Eagle.

Flash forward to the present. A year after the attack on America, Dobbins is still in ready mode. The level of security may have decreased and the door guards may be gone, but the mood remains the same. Reservists are focused. The base may revert back to its old appearance, but the reservists will never be the same. Sept. 11 changed people. Our outlook as reservists has changed and our purpose has been crystallized. We understand our place in the world, and we're ready to take it.

Top-Three Connection



(Photo by Senior Airman Micky Cordivola)

By Master Sgt. Ken Ward
94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, first sergeant

During the last 24 years, Air Force active duty and the Reserve have played major roles in my life. From my days as a security forces specialist to my latest challenge as the first sergeant of the 94th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, I've

noticed that many reservists have become more relaxed with their dress and appearance.

When I first entered the Air Force, 35-10 was the regulation used to define proper dress and appearance. In those days we always reminded our friends and other members when they were out of regulation by simply stating, "Your out of 35-10." This regulation number has changed to 36-2903, but the standard is still the same.

First sergeants care about how their people present themselves and how they maintain their military bearing. Actually, some people believe that appearance standards are set by first sergeants for their particular units. The truth is that dress and appearance standards are required by the Air Force for all its members. There is no compromising on this issue. We must look our best at all times and represent the best Air Force in the world to the degree that it deserves.

I know that along with first sergeants, our wing commander, Brig. Gen. William Kane, and vice commander, Col. James Glenn, and our command chief, James Woods, are proactive in keeping Dobbins members looking their best and within regulation. But, like us, they are busy and cannot physically check every person on base for dress and appearance.

From airmen to unit commanders, we all have to work as a team to ensure we watch out for each other. It's the responsibility of every NCO and officer on base to look out for themselves and their peers. When there are visible dress or appearance problems, bring it to those persons' attention. In some cases, they may not even be aware of it.

This leads me into the area of setting the right example. When senior officers and NCOs are out of regulation they set a bad example for our airmen. New members of the Reserve are less likely to follow regulations if they see their supervisors or officers not willing to follow those regulations.

You can avoid many violations by taking a few minutes to check yourself. Some of the most frequent violations are

not wearing your hat outside, males not keeping their hair off their ears and tapered in the back, females allowing their hair to fall out of a tight knot, untrimmed mustaches, lack of polish on shoes, nail polish color, wrong size stripes on uniforms, and visible tattoos.

There are also new fads that are not within regulation. Body piercing including tongue, eyes, lips, and for males, ears, are not allowed on any military installation or in uniform.

Gen. Donald Cook, Air Education and Training Command commander, has made it very clear that members will follow regulations or they will be removed from the Air Force.

Recently, our unit has placed into motion a full "open ranks" inspection for its members. This takes place once a quarter to make sure unit members are in compliance with dress and appearance standards.

If regulating the standard were left solely to wing leaders and first sergeants, it would never happen. It takes pride and commitment from everybody to maintain professional standards. I encourage you to join me, our first sergeants, and other leaders as we strive to look our best.

Don't forget, this month is the annual Family Day celebration

During the UTA on Sept. 7 from noon until 4 p.m., Dobbins Air Reserve Base will have its annual Family Day event. As part of the fun, there will be food, music and games. The day promises lots of fun for everyone. Plan on attending and bringing your family. Also, During the event the base plans to recognize activated members and their families.

Minuteman



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Construction on ALS continues despite minor setback

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

Despite being in the thick of a Georgia drought, there have been enough inclement weather days to slow construction on Dobbins' Assault Landing Strip and require a 10-day weather extension. Though weather has placed some minor obstacles in the path of ALS construction workers, they continue to make progress and are on track to finish on time.

The new runway, which is about 40 percent complete, has met with some delays caused mostly by inclement weather.

Since construction began last January, Dobbins has issued 36 lightning warnings that require work to be temporarily halted for the workers' safety.

In addition to electrical storms, workers have had to overcome the challenge of working through some 78 days of precipitation over the past eight months.

Though they do not necessarily have to stop working due to precipitation, the resulting moisture can affect

a runway.

"The soil has to have a certain moisture content to ensure it compresses," said Mickey Bailey, ALS project engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers, the organization responsible for construction of the runway. "If there is too much or too little moisture in the soil, it can create problems."



The Assault Landing Strip is a 3,500 foot runway that is similar to the type of airfields on which C-130 pilots must land in expeditionary environments. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish)

Workers have completed grading the runway and are currently placing a drainage layer on top of the 12-inch concrete runway.

The 3,500 foot runway will allow the wing to train pilots in conditions similar to those experienced in expeditionary deployments.

"There is a psychological effect of landing on a short airfield that a pilot doesn't get from landing on a 10,000 foot runway," said Brig. Gen. William

Kane, commander of the 94th Airlift Wing. "The ALS will give pilots a taste of what they will experience landing on a short runway."

Weather permitting the ALS should be a reality by mid-February of next year.

Cobb Chamber hosts military appreciation breakfast

Story and photo by Senior Airman Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

On Monday Aug. 5, the Cobb Chamber of Commerce hosted a Military Appreciation Breakfast at the Marriott Hotel. The chamber hosts the program once a year to thank military members for their sacrifice and commitment to their country.

"The Cobb Chamber of Commerce is proud to support our country's military, specifically Dobbins Air Reserve Base and Naval Air Station Atlanta, which are located in Cobb County," said Holly Smith, Cobb Chamber marketing and communications director. "By hosting an annual Military Appreciation Breakfast, we underscore how important Dobbins and NAS Atlanta are to the Cobb community. Besides the significant economic impact, these people are an important part of the fabric of our community."

Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, chief, Air Force Reserve Command, was the guest speaker and spoke to the audience about the sacrifices reservists must make to



During the breakfast, Staff Sgt. Justin Wilson, 94th Security Forces Squadron, was honored as the Airman of the Year for his outstanding contributions to the Reserve and Cobb County. Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard gave Wilson the award.

serve their country. He also made the point of how important public support is to the military.

During the course of the breakfast one military member from each service was awarded Airman, Marine, Sailor or Soldier of the year. Staff Sgt. Justin Wilson, 94th security forces squadron, was honored as the Airman of the Year for his outstanding contributions to the Reserve and Cobb County. "It is an honor and a privilege to receive such a great award," said Wilson. "It also gives you a great feeling to be recognized in this way." The Cobb Chamber, in conjunction with military counterparts, participates in a joint effort throughout the year to pair community and business leaders with military commanders. This program is known as the Honorary Commanders Association.

The year-long program gives selected community leaders the opportunity to learn more about local military activities as well as various aspects of the national defense system. Created by the Cobb Chamber in 1983, the association includes units of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp, Air National Guard and Army Guard.

Quarterly airmen awards announced

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Winners of the second quarter's Outstanding Airman and NCO of the Quarter awards have been announced. The three awards, Airman, NCO, and Senior NCO of the Quarter cover the April through June period. A board of senior NCOs makes the selection on a quarterly basis. Winners of the quarterly awards in each of the three categories are then considered for the annual award.

Airman First Class Dominique James, 94th Security Forces Squadron fire team member, was recognized for her contributions to base cordon security and as an entry controller. Her poise and confidence during bomb threats and in suspicious package situations highlighted her efforts this quarter. During a bomb threat, James was instrumental in directing personnel to safe zones and establishing evacuation routes.

As an activated reservist, James' hours are limited; however, she volunteers in an after school program for kindergarten through third grade students.

Staff Sgt. Wendy Blevins 94th Maintenance Squadron electronic warfare systems specialist, earned the NCO of the Quarter Award for her management and streamlining abilities. She developed several local area network-accessible munitions safety-training programs and has managed the installation of a secret routing network, integrating Internet programs with communication security equipment. This makes it possible for her shop to access classified information in minimum time and with the highest level of security.

As a volunteer, Blevens works with the Special Olympics and served as a course monitor for the torch run last year.

Master Sgt. Rocky Epps, 94th Security Forces Squadron security craftsman, knows how to get the most out of a dollar and it helped him earn the Senior NCO of the Quarter Award. Epps worked with a local company to determine the most economical way to install security equipment on security vehicles. His efforts resulted in a \$30,000 savings to the 94th Airlift Wing. In addition, he planned a training exercise, and served as its evaluator, for the 94th Civil Engineer Squadron on convoy movements and what actions to take during an enemy attack.

Epps is a volunteer with a mental health center where he provides one-on-one behavior modification counseling.

Packages for the third quarter's awards are due prior to the October UTA. If you have an airman who has excelled in the current quarter, contact Chief Master Sgt. James Woods, 94th Airlift Wing command chief master sergeant at (678) 655-4001 for submission guidelines.

Professional wrestler trades blue tights for green utilities

By Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

Nothing about Senior Airman Richard Aslinger says professional wrestler. Unlike the usually brash outspoken entertainers who spend as much time inciting interest of soap opera-like proportions, Aslinger's demeanor is quiet and reserved.

Fittingly, he is known by friends and coworkers in the 80th Aerial Port Squadron as "Clyde," a polite but laid back aerial transportation specialist from Chattanooga, Tenn. When the week-end is over; however, he jumps on a flight to Japan and takes on the personality of Richard Slinger.

As a wrestler for the Japanese company NOAH, Slinger doesn't have to worry about creating a character or putting on an act, as his colleagues who wrestle in the United States must do.

"We don't do those circus-type interviews," said Aslinger, "The Japanese are more concerned with the athleticism of the contest and they like a lot of contact between the competitors in the ring."

Aslinger's interest in wrestling began as a family affair. His uncle, the late Terry "Bam Bam" Gordy, was a founding member of the Fabulous Free birds, an outrageous and eccentric trio that dominated the tag-team wrestling scene, especially in the Georgia and Texas circuits.

His other uncle, Stan "The Lariat" Hansen, also wrestled in the U.S. and

Japan and has held several World and U.S. titles.

"Terry used to tell me to know how to stand a man up and sit a man down," said Aslinger. "He always told me it was about giving the fans a good show and knowing the technical aspect of the sport to prolong your career."

Gordy, who wrestled individually in Japan during the Free Birds' many fallouts,



Aslinger may seem like a rough and tumble wrestler but he follows a down-to-earth family based philosophy. (Photo by Senior Airman Brett Brown)

advised his young nephew to go to Japan.

Two weeks after graduating high school, a 17-year-old boy from a small town in the Chattanooga area was on a plane bound for Japan. For six months he lived, trained and studied wrestling under a strict Japanese system designed like that used in the Sumo discipline.

"It's tougher than boot camp," he said. "The attrition rate is extremely high and they really make you earn your respect. I saw guys who took three-hour

train rides only to turn around after a few minutes of training and go home."

Aslinger spends about 20 weeks of the year in Japan and wrestles nearly 70 matches over the span. He breaks up his overseas wrestling trips into four- or five-week tours and then has to deal with the jet lag and sore muscles and joints he gets in the ring and on the flights.

"The worst part is the jet lag because it takes a week to recover, but I also spend a lot of time with the chiropractor from the fights," he said.

While Aslinger is half a world away taking on Japan's best wrestlers, his wife, Carrie, is taking care of their son, Dylan, and running their bail bonding business.

"It was tough the first time he left and I had to handle the business," she said. "I was calling him all the time asking him what I should do."

Aslinger was 27 when he enlisted in the Air Force Reserve.

"I didn't do it for money or anything," he said. "Really I did it for my country because I wanted to give something back."

Aslinger's experiences in Japan have strengthened his positive resolve about the military.

"When I'm in Japan I see that we helped create that system that allows them to be an economic superpower. I can appreciate that," he said.

Wrestling certainly pays the bills Aslinger said but all the money in the world isn't worth being with his family.

"When I was young I couldn't wait to get out of my small town, but when I got out, I couldn't wait to return. Once you get a real dose of the big time, you appreciate where you came from.

There's nothing like coming home and getting back to my grassroots. While I'm over there, I want to be here raising my family."

Aslinger and his wife agree that his time away is hardest on their son.



Aslinger wrestles in Japan with the NOAH wrestling circuit. (Photo by Senior Airman Brett Brown)

"He watches the videos of his dad wrestling over and over when 'Dad' is away," said Carrie, "He gets mad when the other guy is winning. He starts saying 'I'm going to get that guy for hurting my daddy' and things like that."

"He understands that I'm not in any real danger," Aslinger noted. "I'd rather let him watch the videos of me than have him watching the stuff they show on television here. There is so much foul language in the interviews and they make it seem violent. In Japan they are more concerned about the competitive nature of the sport."

So how does a guy who splits so much time in Japan wrestling and running a company when he's in the U.S. have time to be a reservist?

"My unit is very good to me," he said. "They work with me on rescheduling my drills and are flexible when it comes to annual tour. I'm lucky to work for them."

Dobbins Services wins command-wide awards

Right: For the third year in a row, the Headquarters AFRC Directorate of Services picked the 94th Services Squadron outdoor recreation program at Dobbins as the best in the command. Fred Engel is the chief of the program. (Photo by Don Peek)

Far right: Officials in the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Directorate of Services announced the top services personnel in the command for 2002. Representing Dobbins in the Specialist category is Jacqueline Hicks (left), seen here with Diann Wigington, 22nd Air Force. (Photo by Senior Airman Brett Brown)



Honor Guard preps new people for busy times

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

When a veteran dies, it's appropriate for him or her to receive the proper honors before being laid to rest.

The Dobbins Air Reserve Base Honor Guard ensures veterans receive those honors. But at a time when more and more World War II and Korean War veterans are passing away, it is necessary that the Honor Guard trains others to augment them.

The Dobbins Honor Guard has performed more than 300 funeral and color guard details since the beginning of the year. They travel all over the southeast augmenting their active duty counterparts at Robins Air Force Base in central Georgia. In many instances the details consist of active, reserve and National Guard members.

Training prospective Honor Guard augmentees falls on the shoulders of non commissioned officers said Master Sgt. Denise White, NCOIC of the Dobbins Honor Guard.

"Our NCOs train them and make sure they are familiar with all the positions involved," said White. "They train every-day to perfect their positions and then rotate."

Non commissioned officers like Staff Sgt. Xavier Sanford are responsible for ensuring the men and women of the Honor Guard are ready to represent their service.



All hands join in to hold and fold a flag during a burial detail practice.

"They spend some time practicing with the active duty at Robins," said Sanford. "They have to learn how to be pallbearers, part of the firing party and how to fold the flag properly. It seems like a lot to learn but with practice they get used to it."

Staff Sgt. Leigh Wise, who works for the Military Equal Opportunity Office, has 10 and a half years of combined active and Reserve duty. She decided to work with the Honor Guard a few months ago. In the short period of time that she has served with the Base Honor Guard she has participated in about 50 details, sometimes performing in as many as three in a day.

"I was a little excited before my first detail," admitted Wise. "Now I try to think about what I have to do beforehand and work it out in my mind."

"There are a lot of aspects to remember, especially with all of the different weapons we use in color details and honor details," she added.

According to Wise, Honor Guard members get used to the performances and stress becomes minimal after several performances. There is a great deal of care put into their work especially during burial services.

"A lot of people find the idea of performing at funerals a bit morbid, but there is a lot of pride that goes with it. We realize that is the last scene the family has of their loved ones. They don't just see us, they see how the military is honoring their veteran."

Air Force ended Stop-Loss Sept. 1

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. -- Starting Sept. 1, Air Force Reserve Command, along with the rest of the Air Force, began releasing people in the last Air Force specialty codes affected by Stop-Loss.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche announced the release, which will be phased in during a one-month period to allow the Air Force and affected people time for transition. The Air Force began relaxing Stop-Loss in January and by the end of June the list of remaining AFSCs dropped to three officer and 15 enlisted.

"We have arrived at a new steady-state," Roche said. "Stop-Loss most certainly helped use get here successfully, but we had pledged all along that we wouldn't hold onto anyone longer than necessary."

Reservists with original dates of separation or retirement before April won't be eligible to out process until at least Sept. 1. People originally eligible to out process between April 1 and Sept. 30 have to wait until at least Oct. 1, and those who were to separate or retire on or after Oct. 1 will be able to out process on that date.

Reservists have the option of taking up to five months to transition from Stop-Loss status.

AFRC members who are deployed or are on active duty to support ongoing operations will not be released until they return from their deployments or they are demobilized.

"Mobilized reservists are not demobilized, regardless of Stop-Loss provisions, unless the gaining active-duty major command commander or SAF/MR approves the member's demobilization," said Master Sgt. Steve Westmoreland, superintendent of relocations programs in the Headquarters AFRC Directorate of Personnel.

When Stop-Loss was implemented in October 2001, it virtually covered every reservist in the Selected Reserve, some 73,000.

The last 18 AFSCs on the Stop-Loss list affect 4,917 reservists. The three officer Stop-Loss AFSCs are 31P security forces, 11S special operations pilot and 12S special operations navigator. The enlisted Stop-Loss AFSCs are 1A1X0 and 1A1X1 flight engineer, 1C0X0 air operations, 1C0X1 airfield management, 1C0X2 operations resource management, 1C1X0 and 1C1X1 air traffic control, 1N0X0 intelligence applications and exploitation, 1N0X1 intelligence applications, 1T2X0 and 1T2X1 combat rescue, 2F0X0 and 2F0X1 fuels, and 3P0X0 and

3P0X1 security forces.

Using an approved waiver of Stop-Loss, reservists have had the option of requesting to retire or separate from the Air Force Reserve due to hardship. As commander of AFRC, Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III has been the final approval/disapproval authority for Stop-Loss waivers, said Westmoreland.

According to Westmoreland, the general did not take these steps lightly because he recognized the significant impact Stop-Loss has on reservists and their families. "When feasible, we released the maximum number of reservists possible and allowed significant time to ensure a smooth transition," Westmoreland said.

Stop-Loss, a Department of Defense program, allows the armed forces to retain military members with critical skills on duty beyond their date of separation or retirement for an open-ended period. Prior to Sept. 11, Stop-Loss was last used during Operation Allied Force over Kosovo in 1999. In 1990, President George Bush delegated Stop-Loss authority to the secretary of defense during Operation Desert Shield.

Military personnel flights have more information about Stop-Loss. (AFRC News Service)

Air Force Reserve supports Tuskegee Airmen 2002 convention

By Master Sgt. Stanley Coleman
Public Affairs

Behind every successful event there is a team of unsung heroes who ensure that all goes well. Members of Tuskegee Airmen Incorporated from 44 chapters across the United States convened for their 31st annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta.

Reservists from various units across the United States provided the manpower to ensure that distinguished visitor visits, transportation, security, and protocol operations went smoothly.

Air Force Reserve volunteers traveled to Atlanta to support, witness, and honor the men and women who were part of the Tuskegee Airmen experiment during World War II. This experiment provided black Americans the opportunity to train and serve in combat operations within the field of aviation.

"It's an honor to be in the same room with these guys," said Staff Sgt. Greg Leon Barbera, 700th Airlift Squadron personnel specialist, who served as an escort during the convention. "The history represented here is inspiring."

"We've been planning for the convention since February of this year," said Tech. Sgt. Raffaele Dickerson, 433rd AW senior controller from Lackland AFB, Texas, who supported the computer software and hardware operations for the control cell of the command post.

"This is our third year supporting the TAI annual convention," said Senior Master Sgt. Stephen Knight, 433rd AW command post chief. "The first time we were asked to coordinate the command and control section for information management, protocol, and transportation. We were requested to come back for this event after supporting the last two conventions."

This is our largest command post ever, said Knight. We've gone from grease

boards to computers within the last three years.

Reservists who coordinated the transportation activities included personnel from Robins AFB and Dobbins ARB, Ga.

"I enjoy the challenge of seeing it all come together," said Senior Master Sgt. Dallas Godfrey of 94th Plans Office who helped coordinate the transportation team during the convention. "We were responsible for the transportation arrangements for more than 20 distinguished visitors."

The distinguished visitors included Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Gen. Lester Lyles, commander of the Air Force Material Command and Lt. Gen. John Hopper, Jr. vice commander of the Air Education and Training command.

Roche and Lyles held a press conference during the convention with planning support from the 94th Airlift Wing Public Affairs team.

In addition to the command post support by reservists, the Air Force Reserve Command Human Resource Development Council coordinated an outreach team of reservists in various career fields to communicate the benefits and experiences of their Reserve participation during the convention. The reservists assisted in the area of protocol as well as recruiting support and command post functions.

"We have more than 150 reservists from across the United States who are supporting this convention," said Master Sgt. Rodney Hage, Headquarters AFRC superintendent of Human Resources Development. "Conventions held by the Tuskegee Airmen, Women In Aviation and the League of United Latin American Citizens, represent the various people who serve in the Air Force Reserve."

"These conventions provide an excellent opportunity to communicate with the general public," said Hage.



The Dobbins ARB Honor Guard performs the Posting of the Colors at the opening ceremony of the convention. The opening ceremony was combined with a memorial service for the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. Lonely Eagles and the Organization of Black Airline Pilots, Inc. Solo Flyer.



Secretary of the Air Force James Roche and General Lester Lyles, commander, Air Force Material Command at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, were interviewed by the local media regarding Air Force policy and the Tuskegee Airmen Convention. (Photo by Don Peek)



Telling their story Original members of the Tuskegee Airmen shared their experiences during a videotaped session in the exhibit hall at the Hyatt Regency during the convention. The 94th Airlift Wing provided the camouflage netting for the Red Tail Alley section of the exhibit.



from the left: Tech. Sgt. Alric Nunerley, 94th LSS, Master Sgt. Gary Pauly, 94th LSS vehicle operations NCOIC, and Tech. Sgt. Nathaniel Champion, 94th LSS training NCOIC and Master Sgt. Joe Johnson, 94th APS Robins AFB, supported the Command Post transportation responsibilities.



Past and present (l to r) Command Chief Master Sgt. Cheryl Adams, Air Force Reserve Command, original Tuskegee Airman William C. Loving and wife, Christine, and Staff Sergeant Damaris Jenkins, 80th APS, were all smiles as Mr. Loving and his wife celebrated 35 years of marriage on the night of the awards banquet during the TAI convention in Atlanta. Loving also celebrated his 80th birthday that week. He trained as a navigator/bombardier during WWII.



Val Archer, an original Tuskegee Airman with Dick Howard 94th AW, both Atlanta chapter TAI members, during the TAI convention. Archer trained during World War II as a B-25 flight engineer and waist gunner.



94th AW junior enlisted members supported the convention as escorts to distinguished visitors. From the left: Senior Airman Morjani Law, 94th MSS personnel apprentice, Staff Sgt. Damaris Jenkins, 80th APS air transportation apprentice, and Senior Airman Kaprina Redford, 94th CES information management apprentice, served as escorts and were present at the TAI awards banquet during the convention.



Senior Master Sgt. Sherry Taylor, 22nd AF management analyst, supported the protocol section during the convention. Taylor's father, Clyde Cullen Long, Jr., graduated with the Tuskegee Airmen Class 45B during WWII. He trained as a bomber pilot.



Senior Master Sgt. Dallas Godfrey, 94th XP and wife, Ernestine, attended the awards banquet during the TAI convention.



Gail Lynette Buckley, daughter of singer Lena Horne, who authored the book *American Patriots*, and is a journalist, signs autographs after the awards banquet during the Tuskegee Airmen Inc. convention. Buckley read excerpts from her book on the West Point experiences of deceased Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

Anniversary coin commemorates 20 years of H-Model planes at Dobbins ARB



These numbered coins are a planned part of the 20th Anniversary celebration of the C-130 Hercules delivery. The coin is selling for \$12 with proceeds going to the 700th Airlift Squadron's unit fund. The first hundred coins are reserved for wing members assigned in 1982. One special pure silver coin, numbered 0002 will be given away at the Fall Fling. The coins are available at the 700th AS.

2002 Dobbins ARB Golf Tournament commemorates the C-130 20th anniversary

- * Open to all
- * When: Friday, Oct. 4, shotgun start at 8:45 a.m. (8:15 a.m. show)
- * Where: Fort McPherson Golf Club, Atlanta, Ga.
- * Format: 4-Person scramble (with handicap — build your own team or we can find you one)
- * Cost: \$50 (in advance & non-refundable) includes green fees, cart, buffet lunch, and prizes
- * Submit registration form below & payment (cash only please) to Michelle Christian, Bldg 727, phone number (678) 655-5202
- * Golf Tournament Director -- Lt. Col. Steve Reynolds, phone number (678) 655-4447
- * Registration deadline is Sept. 27
- * Event limited to first 120 participants
- * For directions to Fort McPherson Golf Club, call (404) 464-2178. Proper military ID is required at the main gate. Civilians will be required to register for a daily pass.
- * Proper attire please — shirt with collar, no jeans, soft spikes

Name	Handicap or average score	paid \$50
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		
4. _____		

Team Point of Contact phone number: _____

Helping hands needed at Jonesville cemetery

The Jonesville Cemetery project needs your help on Aug. 10 and Sept. 21 from 7:30 a.m. - noon. Please bring any lawn material, such as lawn mowers and weed eaters, and your energy.

Prior to the Civil War, the land that is now known as Dobbins ARB, Lockheed Martin (Air Force plant #6) and NAS Atlanta was home to several plantations. The plantations were worked by slaves. There was an area of land set aside for slaves who passed away. After the Civil War freed slaves established a community known as Jonesville and named the cemetery after their community. Jonesville was a small farming community in Cobb County.

For more information, contact Master Sgt. Mark Brown at mark.brown@dobbins.af.mil or (678) 655-4120.

Flexibility enables Reserve to support AEF

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - The war on terrorism now requires that the Air Force review the construct of the Air and Space Expeditionary Force in order to meet new wartime commitments.

AEF, the blueprint for deploying expeditionary forces, designed in part to provide greater stability and predictability for the men and women of the Air Force, has been strained but not broken by the war. As much as possible during the war, the Air Force wants to ensure its promise of deployment predictability and stability for its members and their families.

To address recent concerns, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Robert Foglesong established a new office, Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff for AEF Matters, to operate for at least one year to review, clarify and publish AEF policy and guidance. In addition, every other month, major command vice commanders, a group of Air Staff lieutenant

generals and representatives of the AEF Center will meet with the vice chief of staff as the "AEF Forum" to review and refine the AEF structure.

"As the dynamics of war fighting changes, the Air Force must change. That is the strength of the Air Force," said Maj. Gen. Wallace W. Whaley, director of operations at Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command. "The AEF structure will help balance the forces, and we can then provide a high degree of predictability for our people who are deploying. We have historically taken care of our people when we go through these kinds of changes."

Air Force Reserve Command must continue to reorganize in order to meet the new demands of war, the general said. In doing so, it may require training and restructuring in numbers of unit type codes and pieces of units. UTCs are five-character, alphanumeric codes that identify each type of military skill.

Whaley acknowledged that one concern facing the Air Force in the war on terrorism is that certain specialty codes, such as security forces and fire fighters, are stressed.

"Every time we fight, we learn new lessons and we should," he said. "That is the dynamics of the changing Air Force because we don't know where we will fight next. One lesson we've learned is the flexibility of the AEF construct to fight this type of war."

Despite the shakeup of war, up to 90 percent of forces can still count on returning home at their scheduled time. Replacements should continue to receive up to 120-day notices before deploying.

One reason for the high percentage of timely tours can be attributed to the large number of reservists volunteering for deployments.

"In my 34 years of service, I have never seen volunteerism like it is now, and

that has kept the mobilization numbers relatively calm" Whaley said.

Another concern facing reservists in the war on terrorism is support personnel filling active-duty shortfalls.

"The active force may have a UTC that is deploying, and we only fill part of those positions," the general said. "We don't really get to go as a group of people. Long term, we can lose our identity as a UTC or unit."

Whaley added that reservists are qualified and motivated to do the job, whether they go as individuals or in units. They demonstrate that the total force policy of deploying as a Reserve unit or integrating reservists with the active force works.

"We have always prided ourselves in the Reserve as being deployable," Whaley said. "When this command says it is going to do something, we do it and we do it right." (AFRC News Service)

September UTA Schedule

*schedule is subject to change

Saturday, September 7

TIME	ACTIVITY (OPR)	LOCATION
0700-0830	OPEN RANKS/SIGN IN (CC)	UNIT ASGND
0730-0800	WING ELEMENT STAFF MTG	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0730-0900	NEWCOMERS INTRO	BLDG 838/WCR
0900-1100	NBCWD (REFRESHER TNG)(CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
0900-1500	NEWCOMERS ORIENTATION	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0930-1030	OJT MGRS MTG (DPMT)	BLDG 838/RM 2304
1100-1200	FIRST SERGEANTS GP MTG	NO MTG SCHEDULED
1200-1600	94TH AW/FAMILY DAY	LAKESIDE
1300	OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICALS	NAVY CLINIC
1300-1400	QTRLY PCIII WORKERS GP (MAR/JUN/SEP/DEC)	BLDG 827/RM 208B
CANCELLED	CDC EXAMS	BLDG 838/RM 2304
1300-1500	NBCWD (REFRESHER TNG)(CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
1500-1600	DEPLOYMENT MGRS MTG(XP)	BLDG 838/WCR
1600	RETREAT (CC) UNIT: 94 MXS	BLDG 922/FRONT

Sunday, September 8

TIME	ACTIVITY (OPR)	LOCATION
0645-0730	OPEN RANKS/SIGN IN (CC)	UNIT ASGND
0730	PHYSICAL EXAMS	NAVY CLINIC
0730	M16A2 TNG (SFS)	CA RANGE
0800-1100	IMMUNIZATIONS	NAVY CLINIC
0800-1400	NBCWD TNG (INITIAL) (CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
0900-1000	YELLOW FEVER SHOTS	NAVY CLINIC
0900-1000	CHIEFS GROUP MTG (PA)	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0900-1200	CDC EXAMS	BLDG 838/RM 2304
0930	M16A2 TNG (SFS)	CA RANGE
1000	IG COMPLAINTS	BLDG 838/RM 2105
1000-1030	ENL ADVISOR COUNCIL MTG (SEA)	BLDG 838/WCR
1000-1100	30-DAY RECORD REVIEW	BLDG 838/RM 1202
1130	CMDR'S WORKING LUNCH	COM (MARIETTA RM)
1300-1400	FLYING SAFETY	BLDG 727/700 AS
1300-1500	IMMUNIZATIONS	NAVY CLINIC
1315-1400	QTRLY SUPERVISOR SAFETY TNG (MAR/JUN/SEP/DEC)	BLDG 744/ 2ND FL TNG RM
1400-1500	UNIT DP REP MTG (CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
1500-1600	QTRLY NEWCMRS MTG (94AW/CC) (JAN/APR/JUL/OCT)	CONSOL OPEN MESS

Want to see the UTA schedule sooner? The most current issue of the Minuteman is always available online one week prior to the UTA. Access -- http://www.afrc.af.mil/22AF/94aw/pa_minute-man.asp

Club offers "electrifying" give-a-way

Joining the Dobbins Consolidated Club this fall will prove to be an electrifying experience. The club announces the "Electrified Membership Drive" beginning Sept. 3.

New and current club members will be eligible to receive Plasma flat screen televisions, theater systems, personal component systems, portable DVD players, MP3 players and more. During the drive, from Sept. 3 through Dec. 20, Air Force Clubs hope to sign-up 10,000 new members. All members will be eligible for prizes given to scores of people who join any Air Force Club worldwide. Membership pays for current club members, too. Current members are automatically entered to win in a separate drawing. Winners will be randomly selected for each prize. Other membership benefits include special discounts on food, entertainment, special functions, bingo and chances to win a trip to the Super Bowl, Pro Bowl and a regular season NFL game. Check with the Dobbins Club at (770) 427-5551 to find out more.

Dobbins Inn hiring

The Dobbins Inn is now hiring for its newly renovated building. For more information, call Missy Bozeman at (678) 655-4797.

Lunchtime Fun Run

Be a part of the Fitness Center Fun Run on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 11:45 a.m. The two-mile run starts at the Dobbins

Fitness Center. The fun run is open to men and women alike and runners who finish receives a participation T-Shirt. Sign up begins Sept. 3 at the Fitness Center.

Super Bingo

Super Bingo returns to the Consolidated Club Sept. 19 with prizes up to \$5,000. Doors open and cards go on sale at 4 p.m. The early bird game will be called at 6:45 p.m. and regular games are scheduled at 7 p.m. sharp. Persons under 16 are not permitted in the Bingo room and people entering the room must purchase at least one house pack. Non members are welcomed for a \$5 entrance fee. For more information, call (678) 655-4594.

POW/MIA remembrance

Be a part of Dobbins history. Friday, Sept. 20, at 10 a.m. Dobbins Air Reserve Base and the Air Force Sergeants Association/ Auxiliary invite service members to attend "18 Years of Tradition: the Living Memorial Ceremony." Help honor Prisoners of War and those who are Missing in Action. A reception will follow the proceedings.

Funtastic football frenzy is back

Join the armchair quarterbacks at the Dobbins Consolidated Club for suds with your buds. Football season starts in September and the club will be partying all season. Fridays, starting at 4:30 p.m., the club will be giving away prizes and holding drawings for Air Force wide give-a-

ways including: free tickets to the regular season games, the Pro Bowl, and the Super Bowl. Participants must be present during Friday social hour to enter in the drawings and win prizes. Interested persons must be club members in good standing to win prizes. For more information, call (678) 655-4594.

Friday meltdown

After the Football Frenzy Parties in September, stay at the Consolidated Club Team Trivia. What better way to wind down after a hard week at work than with Team Trivia, Fridays at 6 p.m.? Come and see if you're as smart as you think. For more information, call (678) 655-4594.

Friday evening dining

Join the Consolidated Club for dinner on Friday evenings and enjoy a new menu featuring prime rib, rib eye delmonico, chicken Bordeaux, shrimp fettuccine, pasta primavera, grilled salmon and grilled chicken Caesar salad. Order a bottle of the perfect wine to compliment your meal. As always, Chuck Weirich provides dinner music for your enjoyment.

Club buffets

Dine in elegance at the Consolidated Club on UTA Sundays at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For only \$9.95 or \$8.95 with a club member discount, individuals can enjoy buffets to rival our special holiday buffets. For more information, call (678) 655-4594. Reservations are not required but are recommended.

Special Rental discounts

The Dobbins Rental Center is once again offering the frequent renter program. To participate just come by the Rental Center at Building 558 and ask for a frequent renter card. Your card will be stamped for each rental of \$30 or more. Get five stamps and you will receive up to \$50 off one rental.

SPSU scholarship available

Are you a reservist who will be attending Southern Polytechnic State University in the Fall of 2002? Are you a dependent of a reservist who will be attending Southern Polytechnic State University in the Fall of 2002? If so, the Dobbins Officers Wives Club has a \$1,000 scholarship available. For more information, call Lynn Murray at (770) 528-7307 from the Southern Polytechnic State University Office of Development.

On-the-go eating

The Verhulst Hall Dining facility continues the "Meals to Go Window." During UTA lunches, call the menu line at (678) 655-3872 to find out what is on the lunch menu and then fax your order to (678) 655-3430. Be sure to include your name and unit. If you do not have access to a fax machine, you can also place orders at the window. Each individual must be present to sign for his or her meal. Multiple orders for pick up by a single person can be handled through the window. The window is located at the rear of the dining facility across from the billeting office.

Cobb County remembers Sept. 11 in the Marietta Square

The Cobb County community will host a remembrance event on the Marietta Square to remember and honor all who lost their lives on and responded to Sept. 11 last year.

The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 11 and will include salutes to military and public safety personnel, a memorial tribute and an address by Gov. Roy Barnes. Moby, morning radio host for KICKS 101.5, will be the master of ceremonies.

Lee Rhyant of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co. chairs the organizing committee of business, military, government and community leaders.

"It is our hope that this event will recognize all of our public safety heroes and victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks," said Rhyant. "Once the community heard that such an event was being planned, the response has

been overwhelming. We are working with many different community groups and businesses that want to be involved."

Organizations from both the private and public sectors have made commitments of monetary donations and in-kind gifts, which will make the event a true community effort.

"We appreciate local businesses and civic groups stepping forward to make this event a reality," Rhyant added.

For more information or for organizations that would like to make a donation, contact Bonnie Cole at (770) 421-6292.

The official Web site of the memorial event is www.unitedwayatlanta.org. Choose the United InDeed option on the site.

Air Force extends per diem entitlement for reservists

WASHINGTON -- Reservists in Air Force Reserve Command called to active duty in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom may now receive per diem for up to 730 days at one location.

Michael L. Dominguez, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs, signed a waiver Aug. 21 extending his original entitlement waiver for the payment of per diem from one year up to two years. His initial waiver of Sept. 22, 2001, had authorized per diem entitlements for members up to 365 days at one location.

According to officials in the Office of the Air Force Reserve's Directorate of Personnel, per diem entitlements under this authority are not taxable and cannot be arbitrarily reduced. Per diem is not payable to people in a commuting status.

Headquarters Air Force will issue an official message providing administrative information concerning this entitlement. (AFRC News Service)

Clergy Day 2002

The 94th Airlift Wing will be hosting a Clergy Day on Tuesday, Oct. 8. This is an opportunity for your pastor/priest/rabbi to learn more about Dobbins and the mission of the 94th Airlift Wing. If you would like your clergy person to be invited, fill out the information below and return it to the base chapel through the mail system.

Yes! Invite my Pastor/Clergy/Priest/Rabbi (circle one) to the Dobbins Air Reserve Base Clergy Day on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

Name _____
Church _____
Address _____

Phone _____
Member name _____
Unit _____



Herk Ye

Newly Assigned

Maj. Arlene L. Salmon
Capt. Rachel Young-Douglas
Capt. Travis L. McElroy
Capt. Michelle Robinson
Master Sgt. Tresa Hudgins
Master Sgt. Timothy J. Shaw
Tech. Sgt. Sean M. Fallon
Tech. Sgt. Jack Hudgins
Staff Sgt. Gregory J. Boyd
Staff Sgt. Brent James
Staff Sgt. Chad Pass
Senior Airman Caleb S. Murphy
Airman First Class Nicole Bonte'

Navy Clinic commander appointed examiner for 2002 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Iris J. Ashmeade, Branch Medical Clinic Atlanta, has been appointed by Arden Bement, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to the 2002 Board of Examiners for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The award, created by public law in 1987, is the highest level of national recognition for performance excellence that a U.S. organization can receive.

As an examiner, Ashmeade is responsible for reviewing and evaluating applications submitted for the award. The board is composed of about 400 leading experts selected from industry, professional and trade organizations, education and health care organizations, and government.

Those selected meet the highest standards of qualification and peer recognition. All members of the board must take part in a preparation course based on the Baldrige criteria for performance excellence and the scoring and evaluation processes for the Baldrige Award.

Awards may be given annually in each of five categories: manufacturing, service, small business, education, and health care.

Information about the Baldrige National Quality Program and the application process can be found on the Baldrige National Quality Program's website at <http://www.quality.nist.gov>.

The Award Program is managed by NIST, a program of the Commerce Department's Technology Administration, in close cooperation with the private sector. The American Society for Quality in Milwaukee, Wis., administers the program.

For further information about Ashmeade, contact (678) 655-5312.

For further information about the Baldrige Award, call Jan Kosko, NIST Public and Business Affairs, (301) 975-2767.

Top Three meeting zones in on mentoring and fundraising

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Along with the normal business of inducting new master sergeants, several subcommittee leaders updated the group on their committee's progress and talked about future undertakings.

After Col. James Glenn, 94th Airlift Wing vice commander, inducted the base's new master sergeants and Senior Master Sgt. Joyce Scott, Transportation Proficiency Center, shared her feelings about leadership, progress reports were provided that included those from the Leadership Enrichment subcommittee and the Dobbins Top Three Fundraising committee.

Senior Master Sgt. Calvin Stevens, 622nd RSG first sergeant said that mentoring activities had begun through the Top Three Leadership Enrichment Program. "We have linked up six of our finest senior NCOs with five outstanding junior airmen," said Stevens. Volunteers for the program came from the Dobbins Top Three organization.

"I want to thank each volunteer, whether or not

they've been paired up with an airman yet or not," added Stevens. "Our intentions are to match the backgrounds of our mentors as close as we can with the goals of the junior NCOs. And, as we bring more junior leaders into the program, we will be tapping other volunteers to help us."

While mentoring is a new challenge to the Top Three, fundraising has been a necessity from the beginning. Heading up the Fundraising committee is Master Sgt. Judy Gibson, 622nd Regional Support Group, NCOIC readiness training.

"Fundraising is vital to us being able to carry forth many of the programs and events we think are good for the base and our enlisted force," said Gibson who took over the position last year.

"We also need to do what we can on and off base to become a visible and viable force," she added. She also is working with a group to set up next year's Combat Dining In.

The following list shows some planned activities for Top Three fundraising coming up in the next few months. Any Top Three member, family or friends are encouraged to support the activities.

Dobbins Top Three fundraising committee projects

Event: Fundraising Booth
Time: Family Day Picnic
Location: Lakerside

Event: Car Wash
Time: October
Location: To Be Determined

Event: Top III T-Shirt Sales
Time: Ongoing
Location: Dobbins

Event: Car Wash
Time: September
Location: To Be Determined

Event: Sub Sale
Time: November/December
Location: 22 AF, Bldg 729

Event: Top III Coin Sales
Time: Ongoing
Location: Dobbins

Event: Golf Tournament
Time: September/October
Location: To Be Determined

Event: Adopt-A-Highway
Time: ASAP
Location: To Be Determined

Event: Combat Dining In
Time: April 2003 UTA
Location: Hangar 747

Event: Sub Sale
Time: September/October
Location: 22 AF, Bldg 729

Event: Cemetery Flag Placement
Time: October/November
Location: Jonesville Cemetery

Event: JROTC Flights Booth
Time: April 2003
Location: 80th APS

October celebration to commemorate 20 years of H-Model planes

On October 12, 1982, the 94th Airlift Wing received its first brand-new, straight from the factory C-130 Hercules. The plane was the first in the delivery of new aircraft to the Air Force Reserve. You might recognize it now. Its tail number is 626.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the wing's step into a new era of flying, and in conjunction with this year's Fall Fling, special events are planned during the week of the October unit training assembly.

Along with C-130 flying events and special displays, a golf outing is planned, commemorative coins

will be available, and the original crew will be in attendance. A special program, recognizing the wing's accomplishments with the C-130 aircraft, is also planned to kick off the Fall Fling.

As part of the celebration, there will be plenty of chili and wings, snacks, drinks and door prizes. The event is planned to be open to the families of reservists,

Dobbins employees and retirees. Watch for more details in upcoming issues of the *Minuteman*.



Advocates for the USAF Academy

By Master Sgt. Stan Coleman
Public Affairs

How do you give back to something that you've enjoyed and have been blessed by for many years? What example of opportunity can you use to encourage character, honor, academic excellence and a belief in teamwork?

Lt. Col. Elfreda Harris, 94th Aeromedical Staging Squadron chief nurse, found the answer to these questions serving in an additional duty as a liaison officer for the United States Air Force Academy.

"The Air Force provided me numerous opportunities during my career to develop and use my ability and talents," said Harris. "I wanted to share the benefit of those experiences with young people and encourage them to consider the Air Force as a viable choice. Becoming an Air Force Academy Admissions Liaison Officer provided me that outlet."

Nearly 2,000 Air Force officers who live in neighborhoods throughout the United States and several overseas locations serve as an admissions liaison officer either full time or as an additional duty. They represent the Air Force at events, college fairs, science fairs and appear on radio, TV, and at other speaking engagements. They work to inform the public about the opportunities available at the Academy and Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

"Being an ALO provides me the opportunity to let young people know that there are other opportunities beyond their immediate environment," said Harris. But acquiring those opportunities isn't easy. Gaining admission into the Air Force Academy is a process, according to Harris. Academic preparation

should start at the freshman and sophomore levels. The application process should begin early in the high school student's junior year.

The Air Force Academy is located in Colorado Springs, Colo., 50 miles south of Denver. It is home to 30 different academic majors and a cadet population of 4,000 men and women from the United States, its territories and several foreign countries.

Harris is responsible for Douglass High School and assists other admission liaison officers with their area high schools when needed.



Cadet 3rd Class Dennis Muller of New Orleans, Louisiana, is a sophomore at the United States Air Force Academy majoring in aeronautical engineering. He is accompanied by Vector, a peregrine falcon that is five years old and is one of several show birds trained by cadet falconers at the academy. I enjoy the camaraderie of the academy and pride that comes with being a cadet, said Muller. Muller represented the academy at the Tuskegee Airmen 2002 Convention exhibit in Atlanta. (Photo by Don Peek)

"For the 2002 graduating class of Loganville High School, I had the pleasure of presenting two Academy appointments and one Academy Preparatory School

appointment for Maj. Dan Tillman, a fellow ALO in the Atlanta area," said Harris.

The Academy Preparatory School is a 10-month school for academic preparation to make selected applicants more competitive for entrance into the academy. Approximately 240 students between 17 and 22 years old begin the prep school program in late July.

"Potential Air Force Academy applicants have to be mentored early in their high school career to ensure they meet the academic, leadership, medical and physical standards to compete for admission," said Harris. "They should have a good foundation in math, science, and english. And a presidential or congressional nomination must be obtained. They should also be active in community service and physically active in team sports or some other athletic discipline."

Athletics are a requirement at the academy. Each cadet takes two physical education courses each semester and is required to participate in either intercollegiate or intramural sports.

"Students who have a good chance of receiving an appointment are often sought after by other institutions," said Harris. "Being an ALO is also a sales job."

"You sell the benefits of attending the academy such as guaranteed job placement after graduation but there's no guarantee students will pursue the opportunity," said Harris.

Officers can serve as ALOs as an additional duty to their Reserve assignments or they may obtain a Category E (primary duty) slot. Their primary job is to serve as a link between students who are interested in applying to the Air Force Academy or for an Air Force ROTC scholarship.

Appointments to the academy are also available to reservists who meet the requirements.

For more information regarding the ALO program, contact the Regional Directors of Admission Liaison, United States Air Force Academy, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 215, USAF Academy, CO 80840-5025. The Region II (Southeast) Director is Maj. Allan D. Harris (commercial 719-333-2641), (DSN 333-2641).